

Com. Fortune Dined

Continued from page 1.

journalists.

After the various courses had been disposed of, the brilliant, witty and scholarly Judge R. H. Terrell, acting as toastmaster, paid a high tribute to the guest of the evening, eulogizing his work and worth and briefly detailing the many salient points in his career. The first speaker of the evening was Hon. Judson W. Lyons, Register of the U. S. Treasury, who responded to the toast "Our President." In well-chosen words and in tones of eloquence, Mr. Lyons gave a brief eulogy of President Roosevelt, and at the conclusion of his speech received hearty applause. He was followed by Hon. John C. Dancy, Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia, who responded to the toast, Our honored guest. Mr. Dancy was at his best and painted a beautiful picture of Mr. Fortune's in all of the colors of the solar spectrum. He spoke of Mr. Fortune's long and useful career, that while he had opposed many men and measures, he had never lost their friendship nor their respect, and was today the most popular leader, and has the respect and confidence of all of his fellow men. Toastmaster Terrell then introduced that veteran leader, Gov. P. B. S. Pinchback, of Louisiana, who delivered the most telling speech of the evening. Gov. Pinchback has not lost any of the power, nor the fire of his early days, and moved his hearers as with magic wand. Speaking of the career of Mr. Fortune, he disagreed with Recorder Dancy and said that Mr. Fortune had always been consistent to his way of thinking, that he had never erred, and that of the many young and older men of the race, was the ideal editor and leader. The Governor's speech was received with thunderous applause.



EDITOR T. THOS. FORTUNE.

Mr. Fortune, the guest of the evening, was then called upon and made one of his characteristic addresses. Mr. Fortune's speech was enthusiastically applauded. It was mainly on the conditions that confronted and hemmed in the Negro race in America to-day. It was full of common sense and sound advice. Among other things he said:

"It is a hopeful sign of the times that the thoughtful men of the republic are beginning to speak out in clarion tones for justice to the wronged and the oppressed, for human rights, and for law and order. Error cannot prevail if truth will combat it. When the brains and character of a nation become aroused against wrong and wrong-doers, when the pulpit and the press and the philosopher's of the closet and the chair begin to protest and to point the finger of warning, all men who fear God and love their country may take heart of hope.

We stand upon the threshold of great events. Ten millions of citizens with coequal rights under the Federal Constitution clamor for justice and fair play, and the great republic will not disregard their prayer, because in the hour of national peril, when the dismemberment of the Union of the States trembled in the confusion, and

when the future was inky with the cloud of doubt, 200,000 black men bared their bosoms to the hail of lead and iron. Ancient republics may have been ungrateful; the greatest republic since the Roman eagle overpowered the world cannot afford to be so, and, I believe, has no desire to be so. The heart of it is true to the highest and noblest aspirations of the human soul.

Behold, the dawn cometh, and the black shadows of night shall be pierced by the rays of God's light.

And now, my friends, what of the Philippine Islands and the Filipino people? And here is another and mighty problem of race squarely under the American flag and clean out from under the American Constitution. And in this aspect of it, at least, we are companions of theirs, for it is construed that we stand largely where they stand—outside of the American Constitution, but under the American flag. The hazards of war make strange bedfellows, but none stranger than this of the Afro-American and Filipino peoples.

The islands are rich beyond the dreams of avarice in agricultural and mineral resources, and they are capable of sustaining 50,000,000 instead of 10,000,000 people they now sustain. They need new life. They need much increase of population, of men and women who have large, strong, physical development, who love eternal summer, and who are not afraid of COL AM—FOUR SH honest toil. And nature has ordained it so that the white man cannot live in the Philippines except as a parasite; he may suck blood there, but he can create none that has not in it the elements of hasty decay. But the Negro—he was born in the sun, and honest toil has been his portion through the dull ages since the Sphinx lifted his head out of the sand of Egypt and dared the wise men of all times to solve the riddle of him. And do these facts suggest a solution of two race problems to you? Perhaps."

Short addresses were then made by Judge E. M. Hewlett, of the District of Columbia, Dr. E. D. Scott, Mr. Robert Pelham, Jr., Editor E. E. Cooper, of The Colored American, Mr. W. L. Houston, Mr. John H. Painter, Mr. W. D. Montague, Lawyer W. L. Pollard, Lieut. Thos. H. R. Clark, closing with an original poem from Lieut. R. L. Toomey.

NOTES.

Dr. E. D. Scott's wit and oratory was the surprise of the evening.

L. M. Hershaw can always be depended upon for a good impromptu speech.

One seldom meets a finer set of postprandial speakers.

Judge Hewlett's tribute to the washer woman and wage workers brought Dr. P. B. Brooks to his feet, so great was his enthusiasm.

Judge Terrell is the prince of toastmasters.

Gov. Pinchback possesses all of the eloquence and fire of his youth. His speech was the gem of the evening.

As a punster and extemporaneous wit, Bob Pelham is in a class to himself.

Will Houston's jungle story took well and provoked prolonged applause.

Lieut. Clarke's tribute to the black soldiery of the world's history was a classic.

Lieut. Toomey is nothing if not original. His ode to Fortune was magnificently rendered.

Lawyer Thos. L. Jones looped the loop.

The guests are still wondering how Prof. Geo. W. Cook got out of the banquet hall.

Messrs. Gray and Costley were voted premier entertainers.

Editor Cooper received an ovation. Register Lyons' tribute to President Roosevelt was dignified and patriotic.

Recorder Dancy, like wine, improves with age.

Assistant Assessor Montague made facts and figures interesting. A difficult task.

Whitfield McKinley came late, but

he got in his nap just the same.

John Paynter's address was brief but to the point.

Messrs. W. T. Menard, Chas. E. Hall, Bob Pelham and H. E. Baker grew very boisterous upon the arrival of the chicken.

Major C. A. Fleetwood was the recipient of many nosegays from different speakers who referred to his war record and the honor medal voted him by Congress.

The handsome Dr. A. M. Curtis was a good listener and enjoyed the "show."

Will Pollard is always happy when there's any speaking "doin'."

Mr. Geo. Childs, of this city, was married to Miss Lula Thomas, of Richmond, Va., in Baltimore, Md., Tuesday, June 23rd.

Mr. Edward Green, a prominent business man of Alexandria, Va., accompanied by his wife were visitors in Washington last Tuesday and took in the excursion to Glymont, Tuesday evening, on the Galbraith church excursion.

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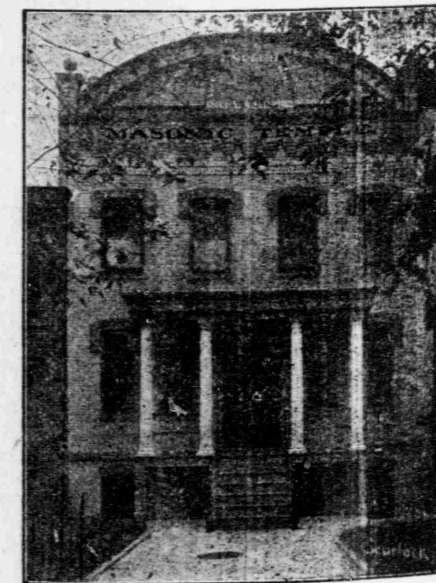
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